

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.    A method for enabling anonymous communications from  
2   a first device using Bluetooth communications protocol,  
3   comprising the steps of:

4               obtaining a temporary identification number for the  
5   first device; and

6               transmitting information including the temporary  
7   identification number from the first device.

1           2.    The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining  
2   further comprises the step of generating the temporary  
3   identification number at the first device.

1           3.    The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of  
2   generating further comprises generating the temporary  
3   identification number using an algorithm.

1           4.    The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of  
2   generating further comprises generating the temporary  
3   identification number at a Bluetooth chip within the first  
4   device.

1        5.    The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of  
2    generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3    temporary identification number on a periodic basis.

1        6.    The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of  
2    generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3    temporary identification number at random intervals.

1        7.    The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of  
2    generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3    temporary identification number at a beginning of a  
4    transaction.

1        8.    The method of Claim 2, further including the steps  
2    of generating an access code identifying a format of the  
3    temporary identification number.

1        9.    The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of  
2    transmitting further includes transmitting information  
3    including the temporary identification number and the access  
4    code.

1           10. The method of Claim 1, further including the step of  
2     periodically obtaining a new temporary identification number  
3     to be associated with the first device.

1           11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining  
2     further comprises the step of receiving a temporary  
3     identification number from a source located remotely from the  
4     first device.

1           12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of  
2     receiving further comprises the steps of:  
3                 requesting the temporary identification number from  
4     the remote source; and  
5                 receiving the temporary identification number from  
6     the remote source responsive to the request.

1        13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the step of  
2 requesting the temporary identification number further  
3 includes the steps of:

4                generating a random identification number at the  
5 first device; and

6                using the random identification number within the  
7 request for the temporary identification number.

1        14. The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of  
2 generating a random identification number comprises the step  
3 of randomly generating a portion of bits comprising a  
4 Bluetooth address.

1        15. The method of Claim 14, further including the step  
2 of periodically regenerating the portion of the bits  
3 comprising the Bluetooth address.

1        16. The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of  
2 generating a random identification number comprises the step  
3 of randomly generating 32 bits of the 48 bits of the Bluetooth  
4 addresses.

1        17. The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of  
2        generating a random identification number comprises the step  
3        of randomly generating LAP and UAP fields of a Bluetooth  
4        address.

1        18. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of  
2        receiving a temporary identification number further comprises  
3        receiving an identity token for use as the temporary  
4        identification number broadcast from the remote source.

1        19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the identity token  
2        is substantially continuously broadcast.

1        20. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of  
2        receiving further comprises the step of receiving the  
3        temporary identification number responsive to an inquiry from  
4        the remote source.

1        21. The method of Claim 11, wherein the remote source  
2        comprises a non Bluetooth device.

1           22. The method of Claim 11, wherein the remote source  
2 comprises a Bluetooth device.

1           23. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining  
2 further comprises the steps of:

3                 storing multiple temporary identification numbers  
4 within the first device; and

5                 randomly selecting one of the multiple temporary  
6 identification numbers as the temporary identification number.

1           24. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining  
2 further comprises the steps of:

3                 establishing a first connection between the first  
4 device and a second device;

5                 exchanging data over the first connection between  
6 the first and the second devices; and

7                 generating the temporary identification number using  
8 the exchanged data.

1           25. The method of Claim 24, wherein the data comprises  
2 a non-temporary identification number and an index value.

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1           26. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth  
3 device, comprising the steps of:

4                 generating a temporary identification number at the  
5 first Bluetooth device using an algorithm within the first  
6 Bluetooth device;

7                 inserting the temporary identification number as a  
8 Bluetooth identification number into messages to be  
9 transmitted from the first Bluetooth device; and

10                transmitting the messages from the first Bluetooth  
11 device to the second Bluetooth device.

1           27. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of  
2 generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3 temporary identification number on a periodic basis.

1           28. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of  
2 generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3 temporary identification number at random intervals.

1           29. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of  
2 generating further comprises the step of generating the  
3 temporary identification number at a beginning of a  
4 transaction.

1           30. The method of Claim 26, further including the step  
2 of periodically obtaining a new temporary identification  
3 number to be associated with the Bluetooth communications  
4 protocol.

1           31. The method of Claim 30, further including the step  
2 of inserting a period of time the temporary identification  
3 number is valid into the message.



1           32. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth  
3 device, comprising the steps of:

4                 establishing a first connection between the first  
5 device and the second Bluetooth device;

6                 exchanging a non-temporary identification number and  
7 an index value over the first connection between the first  
8 Bluetooth and the second Bluetooth devices;

9                 generating a temporary identification number using  
10 the non-temporary identification number and an index value;  
11 and

12                establishing a connection between the first  
13 Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device using the  
14 temporary identification number as a Bluetooth identification  
15 number.

1           33. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth  
3 device, comprising the steps of:

4                 generating a random identification number at the  
5 first Bluetooth device;

6                 transmitting a request including the random  
7 identification number as a Bluetooth identification number to  
8 the second Bluetooth device;

9                 transmitting a response to the request including a  
10 temporary identification number from the second Bluetooth  
11 device to the first Bluetooth device;

12                establishing communications between the first and  
13 the second Bluetooth devices using the temporary  
14 identification number as a Bluetooth identification number.

1           34. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth  
3 device, comprising the steps of:  
4           broadcasting an identity token from a location;  
5           receiving the identity token at the first Bluetooth  
6 device; and  
7           transmitting messages from the first Bluetooth  
8 device to the second Bluetooth device including the identity  
9 token therein as a Bluetooth identification number.

1        35. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first Bluetooth device and a second Bluetooth  
3 device, comprising the steps of:

4                generating a Bluetooth address having randomly  
5 generated LAP and UAP fields; and

6                establishing a connection between the first  
7 Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device using the  
8 generated Bluetooth address.

1        36. The method of Claim 35, further including the steps  
2 of:

3                establishing a security pairing between the first  
4 Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device; and

5                exchanging fixed Bluetooth addresses between the  
6 first Bluetooth device and the second Bluetooth device.

1        37. The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of  
2 establishing further comprises the steps of:

3                generating an access code from the generated  
4 Bluetooth address; and

5                paging the second Bluetooth device from the first  
6 Bluetooth device using the generated access code.

1           38. A Bluetooth device, comprising:  
2                 circuitry for communicating from the Bluetooth  
3 device to a second Bluetooth device; and  
4                 a module for obtaining a temporary identification  
5 number for use in from the Bluetooth device to the second  
6 Bluetooth device.

1           39. The Bluetooth device of Claim 38, further including  
2 a first storage area for storing the temporary identification  
3 number.

1           40. The Bluetooth device of Claim 39, further including  
2 a second storage area for storing a fixed identification  
3 number associated with the Bluetooth device.

1           41. The Bluetooth device of Claim 38, further including  
2 a table for storing of temporary identification numbers  
3 associated with other Bluetooth devices communicating with the  
4 Bluetooth device.

1           42. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless  
3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4                   generating a temporary identification number at the  
5 first wireless network device using an algorithm within the  
6 first wireless network device;

7                   inserting the temporary identification number as a  
8 wireless network identification number into messages to be  
9 transmitted from the first wireless network device; and

10                  transmitting the messages from the first wireless  
11 network device to the second wireless network device.

1           43. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless  
3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4                 establishing a first connection between the first  
5 wireless network device and the second wireless network  
6 device;

7                 exchanging a non-temporary identification number and  
8 an index value over the first connection between the first  
9 wireless network device and the second wireless network  
10 devices;

11                generating a temporary identification number using  
12 the non-temporary identification number and an index value;  
13 and

14                establishing a connection between the first wireless  
15 network device and the second wireless network device using  
16 the temporary identification number as a wireless network  
17 identification number.

1           44. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless  
3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4                   generating a random identification number at the  
5 first wireless network device;

6                   transmitting a request including the random  
7 identification number as a wireless network identification  
8 number to the second wireless network device;

9                   transmitting a response to the request including a  
10 temporary identification number from the second wireless  
11 network device to the first wireless network device;

12                   establishing communications between the first and  
13 the second wireless network devices using the temporary  
14 identification number as a wireless network identification  
15 number.



1           45. A method for enabling anonymous communications  
2 between a first wireless network device and a second wireless  
3 network device, comprising the steps of:

4                   broadcasting an identity token from a location;

5                   receiving the identity token at the first wireless  
6 network device; and

7                   transmitting messages from the first wireless  
8 network device to the second wireless network device including  
9 the identity token therein as a wireless network  
10 identification number.